



Washington State  
Department of Transportation

## SR 304 News – Environmental Assessment Hearing Scheduled

### Downtown Bremerton Pedestrian/Bremerton Transportation Center Access Improvements



To better facilitate traffic flow, pedestrian safety and pedestrian access to and from the Bremerton Transportation Center (BTC), WSDOT is assessing the environmental impacts of two possible solutions: an SR 304 tunnel with surface-street improvements; and surface-street improvements only. This Environmental Assessment (EA) identifies and forecasts the project's potential social, economic and environmental impacts. The EA is now available for public review and comment at the following locations:

- Bremerton Public Works and Utilities Office, 3027 Olympus Dr. and 100 Oyster Bay Ave. N.;
- Bremerton Department of Community Development, 345 -6th St., Suite 600;
- WSDOT Olympic Region Headquarters, 5720 Capitol Blvd. S., Tumwater; and
- Washington State Library, 6880 Capitol Blvd. S., Tumwater.



#### **Environmental Assessment Hearing**

Tuesday, April 19, 2005, 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM  
West Hills Elementary, 520 S. National Ave.,  
Bremerton

#### **Information**

WSDOT Olympic Region

Project Manager:

Neal Campbell

360-357-2666

[campben@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:campben@wsdot.wa.gov)

[www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/SR304bremertontunnel](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/SR304bremertontunnel)

- Downtown Bremerton Branch, Kitsap Regional Library, 612 -5th St.;

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Information:** Individuals requiring reasonable accommodations may request written materials in alternate formats, sign language interpreters, physical accessibility accommodations, or other reasonable accommodation by contacting Nita Jackson, WSDOT, Olympic Region, P.O. Box 47440, Olympia, WA 98504-7440, or telephoning collect at (360) 357-2675 by April 15, 2005, so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may call the Washington State Telecommunications Relay Service, or Tele-Braille at 7-1-1, Voice 1-800-833-6384, and ask to be connected to the event sponsor's phone number.

**Title VI Statement to Public:** It is the Washington State Department of Transportation's (WSDOT) policy to assure that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin and sex, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise discriminated against under any of its federally funded programs and activities. Any person who believes his/her Title VI protection has been violated, may file a complaint with WSDOT's Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO). For Title VI complaint forms and advice, please contact OEO's Title VI Coordinator at (360) 705-7098.

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A link to *Chapter 1, Project Summary* is at:

[www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/SR304bremertontunnel/](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/SR304bremertontunnel/).

Individual copies of the EA are available for purchase (\$55 paper copy, \$5 for a CD). Contact WSDOT Olympic Region Project Manager Neal Campbell at 360-357-2666 or [campben@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:campben@wsdot.wa.gov).

An open-house-style public hearing has been scheduled for April 19, 2005 to gather public input on the adequacy of the EA. Project staff will be on hand to answer questions, and a court reporter will be available to record public comment. Comments may also be submitted in writing at the event. Comments will then be addressed, and the EA will be revised appropriately.

The revised EA will be submitted to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). WSDOT expects a "Finding of No Significant Impacts" (FONSI) for this project.

If you are unable to attend the hearing, you may forward your comments until May 3, 2005 to:

- Neal Campbell, Project Manager,

WSDOT, P.O. Box 47440, Olympia, WA 98504-7440,  
[campben@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:campben@wsdot.wa.gov);  
- Megan Hall, FHWA, 711 S. Capitol Way, Suite 501, Olympia, WA 98501,  
[megan.hall@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:megan.hall@fhwa.dot.gov);  
- Linda Gehrke, FTA, Region 10, 915 Second Ave., Suite 3142, Seattle, WA 98174-1002,  
[linda.gehrke@fta.dot.gov](mailto:linda.gehrke@fta.dot.gov); and/or  
- Cathie Knox-Browning, Kitsap Transit, 60 Washington Avenue, Suite 200, Bremerton, WA 98337,  
[ktexecutive@kitsaptransit.com](mailto:ktexecutive@kitsaptransit.com).

### More About the Project

The periodic surge of offloading ferry traffic into downtown Bremerton is interfering with local traffic flow, pedestrian safety and pedestrian access to and from the Bremerton Transportation Center. As the downtown area continues to develop, this problem is expected to increase.

The proposed combination of a tunnel and surface-street improvements would remove approximately 65 percent of offloading ferry traffic from city streets, resulting in improved pedestrian safety and convenience.

Other modifications are planned as well, including vehicle access to Washington Avenue for offloading ferry traffic headed to the convention center or to East Bremerton via the Manette Bridge. A secondary alternative involving surface-street improvements only is also under consideration.

The project also involves improvements to the Bremerton Transportation Center (BTC) to increase efficiency in handling incoming vehicular traffic, expand capacity in the vehicle holding area, and upgrade administrative offices and toll booths.

The design and construction of the Downtown Bremerton /BTC Access Improvements project is being coordinated with the City of Bremerton's Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Reduction Line project. The CSO line is part of a larger citywide project funded by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the City of Bremerton. The Environmental Assessment for the CSO project has been conducted separately because it is a City of Bremerton project, and the funding agency, EPA, prescribes a different public review process.